



Unit 23 Kotzebue

Kotzebue Sound, Chukchi Sea, and Arctic Ocean drainages from and including the Goodhope River drainage to Cape Lisburne.

See map on page 96 for state restricted areas in Unit 23.

species / bag limits	Hunts are open to both residents and nonresidents unless noted.	permit/ticket required*	open season
Black Bear • See pages 24-27 for bear information and salvage requirements.			
Unit 23: Three bears..... no closed season			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See pages 24-27 for additional bear hunting information. • No resident tag required. • Nonresident hunters must be accompanied by a guide. • Evidence of sex must remain naturally attached to the hide. 			
Brown/Grizzly Bear			
Unit 23: Residents: One bear every regulatory year			Aug 1-May 31
Nonresidents: One bear every regulatory year by permit	DB781		Sept 1-Oct 10
OR One bear every regulatory year by permit	DB791		Apr 15-May 31
<i>In addition to the above regulations, subsistence regulations also apply in Unit 23. (see requirements, p. 25)</i>			
Residents ONLY: One bear every regulatory year by permit available in Kotzebue and Unit 23 license vendors beginning July 1.....	RB700		Aug 1-May 31
Caribou <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In bag limit “caribou” means an animal of either sex; “bull” means a male caribou. • Meat taken in Unit 23 prior to October 1 must remain on the bones of the front quarters, hindquarters and ribs until removed from the field or is processed for human consumption. • In all hunts limited to one sex, evidence of sex must remain naturally attached to the meat. 			
Unit 23: Residents*: Five caribou per day: Bulls	Harvest		no closed season
Cows	Harvest		July 1-May 15
Nonresidents: NEW! Two caribou total: Bulls	Harvest		no closed season
Cows	Harvest		July 1-May 15
<i>*If you live north of the Yukon River and hunt caribou in that area, you do not need caribou harvest tickets/reports, but you must register with ADF&G or an authorized representative within the area.</i>			
Moose <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50-inch antlers and brow tines defined on pages 30-31. • In bag limit, “moose” means an animal of either sex; “bull” means a male moose. • Meat taken in Unit 23 prior to October 1 must remain on the bones of the front quarters, hindquarters and ribs until removed from the field or is processed for human consumption. • In all hunts limited to one sex, evidence of sex must remain naturally attached to the meat. 			
Unit 23, north of and including Singoalik River drainage:			
Residents: One bull by permit available in person at license vendors within Unit 23 villages June 1-July 15.....	RM880		July 1-Oct 31
OR One moose by permit; however, no person may take a calf or a cow accompanied by a calf.			
Permit available in person at license vendors within Unit 23 villages June 1-July 15	RM880		Nov 1-Dec 31
OR One bull with 50-inch antlers or antlers with 4 or more brow tines on at least one side	Harvest		Sept 1-Sept 20
Nonresidents: One bull with 50-inch antlers or antlers with 4 or more brow tines on at least one side by permit	DM871		Sept 1-Sept 20
Remainder of Unit 23: Residents: One bull by permit available in person at license vendors within Unit 23 villages June 1-July 15.....	RM880		Aug 1-Oct 31
OR One moose by permit, however, no person may take a calf or a cow accompanied by a calf. Permit available in person at license vendors within Unit 23 villages June 1-July 15.....	RM880		Nov 1-Dec 31
OR One bull with 50-inch antlers or antlers with 4 or more brow tines on at least one side	Harvest		Sept 1-Sept 20
Nonresidents: One bull with 50-inch antlers or antlers with 4 or more brow tines on at least one side by permit.....	DM871-877		Sept 1-Sept 20

*Hunt numbers starting with an “R” = Registration, “T” = Tier II, “D” = Drawing. Special permits required. See page 13.

species / bag limits	Hunts are open to both residents and nonresidents unless noted.	permit/ticket required*	open season
Muskox <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No open muskox hunting season for nonresidents. • In areas indicated by a ★ Federal restrictions exist see page 8. • Aircraft may NOT be used to transport muskox hunters, muskox, or muskox hunting gear in Tier II hunts. • In all hunts limited to one sex, evidence of sex must remain attached naturally to the meat. • Tag fee waived for Tier II hunting. Tier II muskox tag required. 			
★ Unit 23, the Seward Peninsula west of and including the Buckland River drainage:			
Residents ONLY: One bull by permit		TX106	Aug 1-Mar 15
OR One muskox by permit		TX106	Jan 1-Mar 15
★ Unit 23, that portion north and west of the Noatak River: Residents ONLY: One bull by permit		TX107	Aug 1-Mar 15
Remainder of Unit 23:			no open season
Sheep <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In areas indicated by a ★ Federal restrictions exist see page 8. • Nonresident hunters must be accompanied by a guide (See Guide Information, page 10). • See definition of full-curl horn and drawings on page 28. • Horns must accompany meat from the field. • Ram horns must be sealed within 30 days of kill, except registration hunts in Unit 23. • Sheep hunting may be shortened or closed by emergency order, please contact ADF&G before hunting. 			
★ Unit 23, north of Rabbit Creek, Kiyak Creek and the Noatak River, and west of Aniuk River ("De Long Mountains"): Residents: One sheep by permit, available at ADF&G in Barrow and Kotzebue.			
No aircraft use allowed.		RS388	Aug 10-Apr 30
OR One ram with full-curl horn or larger		DS384	Aug 10-Sept 20
Nonresidents: One ram with full-curl horn or larger		DS384	Aug 10-Sept 20
★ Unit 23, south of Rabbit Creek, Kiyak Creek and Noatak River, and west of Cutler and Redstone Rivers ("Baird Mountains")			no open season
Remainder of Unit 23, ("Schwotka Mountains"): Residents: One ram with full curl or larger		Harvest	Aug 10-Sept 20
OR Three sheep by permit, available at ADF&G in Barrow and Kotzebue. No aircraft use allowed		RS389	Aug 1-Apr 30
Nonresidents: One ram with full-curl horn or larger		Harvest	Aug 10-Sept 20
Wolf • Hides must be sealed within 30 days of kill.			
Unit 23: Twenty wolves			Aug 10-Apr 30
Wolverine • Hides must be sealed within 30 days of kill.			
Unit 23: One wolverine			Sept 1-Mar 31

*Hunt numbers starting with an "R" = Registration, "T" = Tier II, "D" = Drawing. Special permits required. See page 13.

Rabies information

Rabies is a viral disease of the central nervous system which occurs in wild animal populations and is nearly always fatal. Humans can become infected through the bite of a rabies-infected animal (generally a fox, wolf, or dog) or through exposure of an open cut or scratch to saliva of an infected animal. For this reason, plastic or rubber gloves should be worn when skinning foxes or wolves.

Most diseased animals act strangely; being unnaturally withdrawn, overly friendly or "mad." The latter action, one in which the animal will bite or attack anything including other animals, people or objects, is most often associated with rabies. "Dumb" rabies also occurs, however, and should be recognized as being equally dangerous. Paralysis, usually of the lower jaw, is its first recognizable symptom.

If you are bitten by an animal suspected to be rabid, wash the wound thoroughly with copious amounts of soap and water and seek medical aid immediately. If exposed or bitten by a domestic animal suspected of being rabid, the animal should be confined for a minimum of 10 days—if it shows signs of disease, local health officials should be notified. To confirm presence of rabies in a wild animal, send the frozen, undamaged head to a virology laboratory, using the following procedures: (1) Wear plastic or rubber gloves when handling animals; (2) Wrap head in absorbent materials and place in plastic bag—secure bag. (3) Place plastic bag in leak-proof container with some refrigerant material; (4) Remove gloves and wash hands—burn gloves; (5) Wrap package and freeze immediately if possible. Call the number listed below for information on mailing. When mailing, mark package PERISH-ABLE and ship prepaid via fastest means to laboratory. Call laboratory and notify as to flight and arrival time.

Specimens from animals suspected to be rabid should be sent to:

Alaska State Virology Laboratory
Arctic Health Research Bldg., Room 239
University of Alaska Campus
Fairbanks, AK 99775
Telephone: 907-474-7017

Questions regarding treatment to human exposures should be immediately referred to:

Department of Health and Social Services
Section of Epidemiology
(907) 269-8000 or 1-800-478-0084
Rapid reports Message 1-800-478-1700